of Monsoon 1989 is Rs. 200|- lacs. Before onset of Monsoon 1989 drinking water to Jhuggi Dwellers will be made through public hydrants|deep hand pumps.

Havoc caused by earthquakes in Bihar etc.

289. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the extent of havoc caused by the earthquake in Bihar and other places in September last?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): The extent of damage caused by earthquake of 21st August, 1988 in Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim is given in the attached statement. (*See* below).

Statement

Bihar ..

1. Number of districts affected 18.

2. Number of human lives lost 282.

3. Number of persons injured 3767.

4. Houses damaged 149334.

5. Damage has been reported to buildings, roads, bridges, culverts; hospitals, animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries, power stations, embankments, irrigation systems educational institutions etc.

Sikkim

1. Number of districts affected 4.

2. Number of human lives lost 2.

3. Number of houses damaged 12806.

4. Damage has been reported to crops, water supply installations, religious institutions, roads, bridges, buildings, educational institutions, livestock, irrigation systems, forest animal husbandry, power installations, etc.

West Bengal

1. Human lives lost Nil.

2. No. of persons injured 5.

Extensive damages reported to the buildings specially in Darjeeling Sadar Sub-Division, Darjeeling Railway Station, Jalapathar Telephone Exchange Building|Sanatorium, Buthia Busty town out post and collectorate building in Darjeeling town, Water pipeline damaged at some places.

Roads communication from Kalimpong and from Darjeeling to Siliguri distrupted due to landslides and cracks.

Price of Neptha supplied to fertiliser manufacturers

290. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the price of Naptha being supplied by Government to the manufacturers of fertilizers in the country;

(b) to what extent this price is different from the prices of Nāptha being supplied in other countries like USA, USSR and other developing countries;

(c) whether Government propose to review the price structure of Neptha in the interest of the farmers; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI. R. PRABHU): (a) Naphtha is being supplied for the manufacture of fertilizers at Rs. 1982.31 per M.T. exclusive of applicable excise duty.

(b) Details of prices of Naphtha in countries like USA, USSR and other developing countries are not available.

(c) There is no proposal, at present, to revise the price of Naphtha.

(d) Does not arise.

Recommendation of third wage board for sugar industry of the country

291. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Third Wage Board was constituted by Government to go into the problems of labour employed in the Sugar mills in the country;

(b) if so, when such a Commission was constituted;

(c) whether the Commission submitted its report to Government, if so, what are the salient features of the recommendations made by the Commission and the decision, if any, taken by Government thereon; and

(d) if answer to part (c) is in the negative by when the Commission is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b) The Third Wage Board to consider the question of a further revision of the present Wage Structure in Sugar Industry was constituted on 17.7.1985.

(c) and (d) The Wage Board is likely to submit its report by 31 January, 1989.

Import of soyabean oil

292. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of Soyabean oil has affected the farmers who are also the Soyabean oil processors;

(b) whether it was necessary to import the Soyabean oil when there was a favourable crop in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, to what extent there had been favourable crop of Soyabean oil seeds and to what extent the import of Soyabean oil had affected the producers and what were the steps taken to see that the import of Soyabean oil had no effect on farmers in Madhya Pradesh and other States also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Soyabean oil being cheaper in the International market, is imported in crude form. It is then refined and supplied for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) to States|Union Territories and the Vanaspati Industry. In view of the demand of soyabean oil from the State of Madhya Pradesh for distribution under PDS, it is being supplied in refined form to that State. Edible oils including soyabean oil, are being imported to bridge the gap between demand and supply in the country and is kept to the minimum possible. It does not affect the farmers and their production of oilseeds including soyabean in any way.

Setting up of Agricultural Research and Extension Centre in Madhya Pradesh

293. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh is setting up an Agricultural Research and Extension Centre in the State to provide guidance to the farmers to overcome difficulties being faced by them in farming and also to enhance production according to the climate and soil of their respective regions.